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土壤中溶解性有机质对氮循环及N₂O排放影响研究进展

郑紫晗, 邱彦勋, 叶馨远, 许霁然, 徐洋, 郁红艳, 滕跃

江南大学环境与生态学院, 无锡 214122

摘要 全球氮肥使用量的持续增加导致N₂O排放问题日益严峻, 如何有效减少N₂O的排放并提高氮素利用效率成为当前研究的重点。土壤溶解性有机质(soil dissolved organic matter, DOM)在土壤氮循环中发挥着至关重要的作用, 直接或间接影响氮的矿化、固持、硝化、反硝化以及N₂O排放等过程。本文综述了DOM在土壤氮循环以及N₂O排放中的调控作用与机制, 主要包括以下几个方面: (1) DOM通过提供碳源和能量, 促进微生物代谢活动, 从而加速有机氮的矿化, 缓解氮素供应的限制; (2) DOM的组成与形态对氮素的固持、硝化和反硝化反应具有显著调控作用, 影响土壤中氮的转化速率; (3) DOM在硝化和反硝化过程中既能作为电子供体, 又能通过改变土壤微生物群落结构影响氮素转化过程。解析DOM对土壤氮循环的影响不仅有助于理解土壤氮的动态变化, 还能为减缓温室气体排放、优化农业管理措施提供理论依据。

关键词 土壤; 溶解性有机质; 氮循环; N₂O排放; 土壤微生物

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土壤溶解性有机质(soil dissolved organic matter, DOM)是指能通过0.45 μm微孔滤膜的有机分子连续统一体, 是土壤有机质(SOM)的重要组成部分, 主要来源于植物凋落物、根系分泌物、动植物降解产物、微生物代谢产物和SOM的转化^[1]。DOM由多种有机化合物组成, 主要以溶解性有机碳为主, 芳香族物质的含量较少, 含有一定量溶解性有机氮(dissolved organic nitrogen, DON)、溶解性有机硫、溶解性有机磷等, 具体组分包括富里酸(fulvic acid, FA)、胡敏酸(humic acid, HA)、多糖、亲水性有机酸和蛋白质等^[2]。在不同生态系统中, DOM组成及动态行为复杂, 受土壤性质、气候条件、植被覆盖及人类活动等影响显著^[3]。尽管通常DOM占SOM的比例不超过4%^[4], 但由于DOM具有较高的生物活性和反应性, 使其成为土壤微生物的能量底物、物质来源和信号分子, 也是植物的碳成本, 直接驱动着生态系统中碳(C)、氮(N)、磷(P)等养分循环的过程, 因此, DOM对土壤肥力与温室气体排放产生重要影响^[1, 5]。

DOM影响土壤N的循环过程及N₂O排放。一

方面, DOM中的有机碳可以为微生物提供能量, 增强其对氮的分解和转化能力, 特别是在氨化、硝化和反硝化过程中起到重要作用^[1, 6-7]。另一方面, DOM能够与氮素形成复合物, 影响氮的迁移和淋溶。此外, DOM的化学组成和性质, 如芳香化程度和分子质量大小, 影响氮的循环效率和路径^[8-10]。因此, DOM不仅直接影响土壤氮素的储存和流动, 还通过调节微生物群落和生物化学过程, 间接控制氮循环的速率和方向, 最终影响N₂O的排放^[6, 11]。N₂O是一种重要的温室气体, 具有较强的实质性温室效应, 其全球变暖潜势是CO₂的265倍, 且对臭氧层空洞有显著贡献^[12-13]。近年来, 随着全球氮肥施用量的增加, N₂O的排放问题也愈加严峻, 据统计, 截至2023年, 大气中N₂O浓度已达到336.7 nmol/mol, 较工业化前的270 nmol/mol增长了约25%。特别是2020—2022年, N₂O的年均增量显著上升, 超过了过去几十年的平均增速 (<https://www.ipcc.ch/report/ar6/syr/>)。N₂O排放的增加主要归因于农业中氮肥的使用和牲畜粪肥处理等人类活动。故此, 如何减少N₂O的排放并提高氮的利用效率成为土壤科学和环

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郑紫晗, E-mail: zheng18357659931@163.com

通信作者: 郁红艳, E-mail: hyyu@jiangnan.edu.cn

境保护领域的研究重点,研究DOM对氮循环过程及 N_2O 排放的影响具有重要的理论和实际意义。

1 DOM对氮矿化及固持的影响

土壤中的氮循环是指土壤中的氮元素在生物和非生物过程作用下从无机形态转为有机形态、再由有机形态转为无机形态的过程,主要包括氮的矿化(有机氮 $\rightarrow NH_4^+-N$)、硝化($NH_4^+-N \rightarrow NO_3^--N$)、反硝化($NO_3^-、NO_2^- \rightarrow N_2、N_2O$)和氮的固持等过程。由于DOM具有较高的生物活性和反应性,使其不仅在生物层面上通过影响相关微生物在土壤中的活力而调控土壤氮循环,还能在非生物层面上通过与氮素等含氮物质的反应影响土壤中的氮含量。通常,可快速生物降解的DOM占总量约10%~40%,受生态系统、季节动态、管理措施等影响^[14]。同时,DOM中的DON可能是微生物有目的地生产有功能价值化合物(如有机酸或酶)的结果,由此直接影响氮的循环转化过程^[8, 15]。

1.1 DOM对氮矿化的调控

氮的矿化是指有机氮在多种微生物的作用下转化为 NH_4^+-N 的过程,这是植物获取氮素的重要途径。富含DOM的土壤能为微生物活动提供充足的碳源和能量,从而促进微生物的生长和代谢活动,提升土壤有机氮(SON)矿化速率,减缓土壤N供应的限制^[16]。Luxhoi等^[17]的定量研究表明,SON主要通过“氮矿化-固持-周转”途径降解,仅少量N以有机形式被同化。微生物可通过转氨酶将少量SON转化为 NH_4^+-N 吸收,而大部分有机N的降解受到DOM和DON的解聚增溶过程限制^[6, 11]。SON矿化的核心步骤是微生物胞外酶将非DON分解或解聚为DON,随后小分子DON进入微生物细胞进行下一步分解代谢^[18]。因为微生物生物量氮(microbial biomass nitrogen, MBN)的状态决定了土壤氮的矿化和固持,所以,DON作为中间氮库,是SON矿化的初始产物,调节 NH_4^+-N 的供应和SON的生物转化^[16]。

Greenfield等^[19]研究发现,DOM的添加显著增加土壤蛋白酶活性,促进SON矿化为 NH_4^+-N 。研究表明,在N添加或N限制土壤中,DOM对N矿化的促进作用更为显著^[20-21]。张政^[22]的研究表明,在亚热带森林土壤中,鲜叶DOM和N添加显著提高了SOM矿化速率,且深层土壤比表层土壤更易受到影响。DOM去除实验进一步验证,即使土壤微生物呼吸未发生明显变化,MBN、潜在矿化N、总N矿化和

总硝化作用也显著下降^[21]。Li等^[16]对中国亚热带地区土壤的研究发现,DOM对SON矿化具有重要影响,去除DOM可使有机氮累积矿化率减少13.6%~27.4%,平均下降18.8%,这一效果与土壤本底肥力和母质密切相关。同样,Shang等^[23]通过14周的培养实验发现,去除DOM使农田土壤N累积矿化平均减少14.83%,进一步证实DOM在土壤N矿化中的关键作用。此外,研究表明施肥6 a农田中富含木质素类和脂类化合物的DOM与微生物群落(如*Anaerolinea*和*Bellilinea*)密切相关,对净氮矿化有重要贡献^[7]。

DON是DOM中氮矿化的潜在来源,其含量与总N矿化呈正相关^[24-25],DON通过微生物的代谢活动转化为可溶性无机氮,为硝化和反硝化提供氮源^[26]。Li等^[16]发现,水稻土中DOM去除对SON累积矿化的影响占DON含量的21%~52%,说明这部分DON具有较高的生物利用度,对SON的矿化起关键作用。DON中的亲水性碱组分和苯酚组分以及分子质量最小(<1 ku)和最大(>100 ku)的组分矿化降解率很高,主要可能与这些组分较低的碳氮比有关^[27]。

综上所述,DOM通过为微生物提供碳源和能量、调控DON的生成与转化,从而在SON矿化过程中发挥关键作用,调控相关示意图如图1所示。

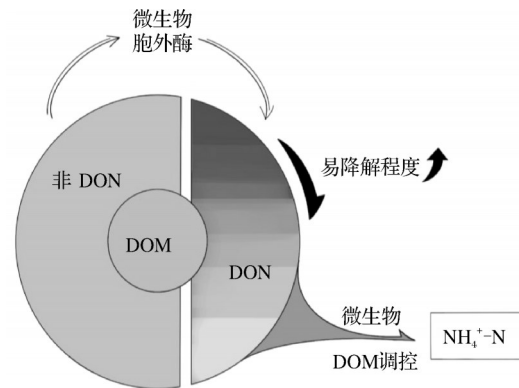


图1 DOM对氮矿化的调控示意图

Fig.1 The regulation of nitrogen mineralization by DOM

1.2 DOM对氮素固持的影响

1) 微生物驱动固持。在土壤中,DOM通过影响土壤微生物的活性和土壤的物理化学性质,对氮素的固持起重要作用。研究表明,微生物能够利用DOM中的DON,通过代谢过程转化为不同形态的氮,如 NH_4^+ 和 NO_3^- ^[28],或者被固持在SOM中,从而减少氮素的流失,因此土壤氮的微生物固持往往与

土壤中易降解有机质含量呈显著正相关^[29-31]。Wang等^[31]通过DOM添加实验发现有机肥DOM组分减缓土壤硝化速度,增加蛋白酶活性,导致NH₄⁺-N、MBN提高,且相较于DOM疏水组分,亲水组分碳利用效率更高,能更高效增加MBN,一定程度增加了土壤氮储存能力和氮持续供应能力^[32]。

氮添加实验同样证实土壤中氮的增加往往伴随着DOM的增加^[21],增加的主要是高分子、芳香性和顽固组分DOM^[31,33-35]。然而,也有氮添加实验发现DOM的增加主要在于不稳定组分,而非顽固组分^[36-37];甚至有研究发现,短期氮添加会使DOM和亲水物质因微生物作用降低^[38]。出现上述矛盾的主要原因可能是实验时间尺度的不同。氮添加的短期响应以DOM的消耗为主,氮添加的长期响应以DOM的重构为主。在氮添加初期,高浓度NH₄⁺会引发微生物应激,需消耗DOM中的亲水性小分子作

为碳骨架合成细胞物质或产生能量以中和氨毒,从而导致DOM总量和亲水组分的降低^[39]。而长期的氮输入可能重塑微生物群落,分泌的氧化酶促进木质素类物质降解,从而生成芳香族聚合物,表现为DOM的分子质量和芳香性显著提高^[34]。

2) 矿物结合保护。除影响微生物驱动固持之外,DOM还通过与矿物结合调控氮的固持。研究表明,DOM与矿物质表面的结合,尤其是与铁和铝氧化物的结合,能够有效减少土壤氮素的流失^[35,40-42],尤其可能调控着土壤剖面中氮的固持^[8-9]。研究证实,DOM的较大分子质量、酸性官能团含量、芳香性和疏水性与DOM在矿物表面的吸附呈正相关^[43-45]。因此,有研究者认为在自然生态系统中DOM含量的增加可能主要来源于与矿质结合,尤其是其中的腐殖化部分^[4]。DOM对氮素固持的影响如图2所示。

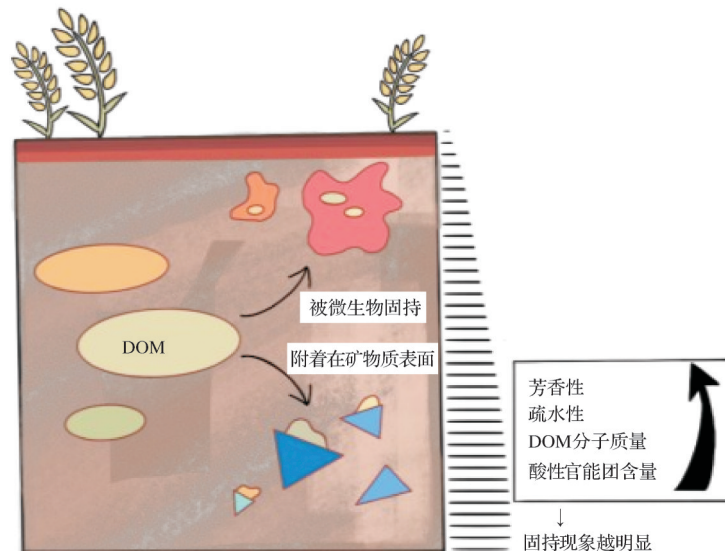


图2 DOM对氮素固持的影响

Fig.2 Effect of DOM on nitrogen sequestration

2 DOM对硝化、反硝化及N₂O排放的影响

硝化与反硝化是土壤氮转化的核心过程,而N₂O作为两者副产物对全球气候变化具有重要影响。DOM对硝化、反硝化及N₂O排放具有显著的调控作用,其影响机制涉及DOM的化学性质、分子结构、微生物可利用性以及环境条件等多方面因素。

2.1 DOM对硝化过程的调控

硝化是指NH₄⁺-N在硝化细菌的作用下氧化为

NO₃⁻-N的过程。DOM作为微生物活动的碳源和营养物质,在硝化过程中发挥直接和间接的双重促进作用。

1) 直接促进作用。DOM的某些组分(如类色氨酸)能够作为电子供体或受体,直接参与硝化过程中的电子传递,从而提升硝化反应的速率及其整体效率^[44-45]。例如,DOM中的糖类、有机酸和氨基酸等高活性成分,可在微生物代谢过程中提供能量来源,加速氨氧化和亚硝酸盐氧化反应的进行^[46]。

2) 间接调控作用。DOM通过调节土壤微生物群落结构和活性间接促进硝化过程。Zhao等^[46]研究

发现,小麦种植通过增加DOM使根际N转化相关微生物活性增强,同时小麦种植改变了土壤DOM成分,显著提高了糖类、胺类和有机酸的含量,这些物质进一步增强了土壤核心硝化细菌(如AOA和AOB)的丰度和代谢活性,进而促进了无机氮的供应和硝化速率的提高。Zhao等^[47]发现在酸性亚热带土壤中嗜铵植物通过释放有机基质改变DOM,招募土壤微生物群落,增强异养硝化速率。DOM去除实验同样证实DOM与土壤硝化速率之间的正相关关系^[20]。

3)DOM调控的差异性。除了直接和间接的双重促进作用外,不同类型DOM对硝化过程的调控存在显著差异。研究发现,亲水性较强的DOM(如玉米芯浸提液)更容易进入土壤水分循环系统,促进硝化作用;而疏水性DOM则可能通过与矿物结合限制其可利用性,表现出对硝化作用的抑制效应^[48]。然而,也有研究发现无论亲水还是疏水组分DOM均可能抑制土壤硝化速度,增加 NH_4^+-N 含量^[10]。

2.2 DOM对反硝化过程的调控

反硝化是将硝酸盐(NO_3^-)或亚硝酸盐(NO_2^-)在厌氧条件下还原为氮气(N_2)或氧化亚氮(N_2O)的过程。DOM对反硝化过程的调控包括作为碳源和电子供体调控及其他途径。

1)作为电子供体参与碳源调控。DOM及其降解产物可为反硝化微生物提供电子供体,直接参与反硝化过程中硝酸盐的还原反应。研究表明,简单有机酸和醇类等易降解DOM组分能够高效地提升微生物的反硝化活性,从而加速 N_2O 和 N_2 的生成^[49-50]。DOM还可通过其微生物降解过程减少土壤中的 O_2 含量,从而增强土壤中的厌氧环境条件进一步促进反硝化反应的进行^[51]。

DOM作为微生物的碳源物质,能够显著影响反硝化细菌的生物多样性和活性。研究表明,DOM中的腐殖酸和富里酸调控反硝化细菌关键酶(如硝酸还原酶、亚硝酸盐还原酶等)的活性,从而提升反硝化过程的整体效率^[52]。然而,不同来源和组成的DOM在土壤中对反硝化过程的影响不同。DOM的来源会影响其提供的碳源类型,植物来源的DOM(如溶解性糖类、有机酸等)通常对反硝化细菌的活性有较好促进作用,而某些复杂有机物如腐殖质对反硝化作用的促进作用相对较弱。

DOM的化学性质和分子结构也显著影响其在反硝化中的作用。小分子DOM更容易被微生物利

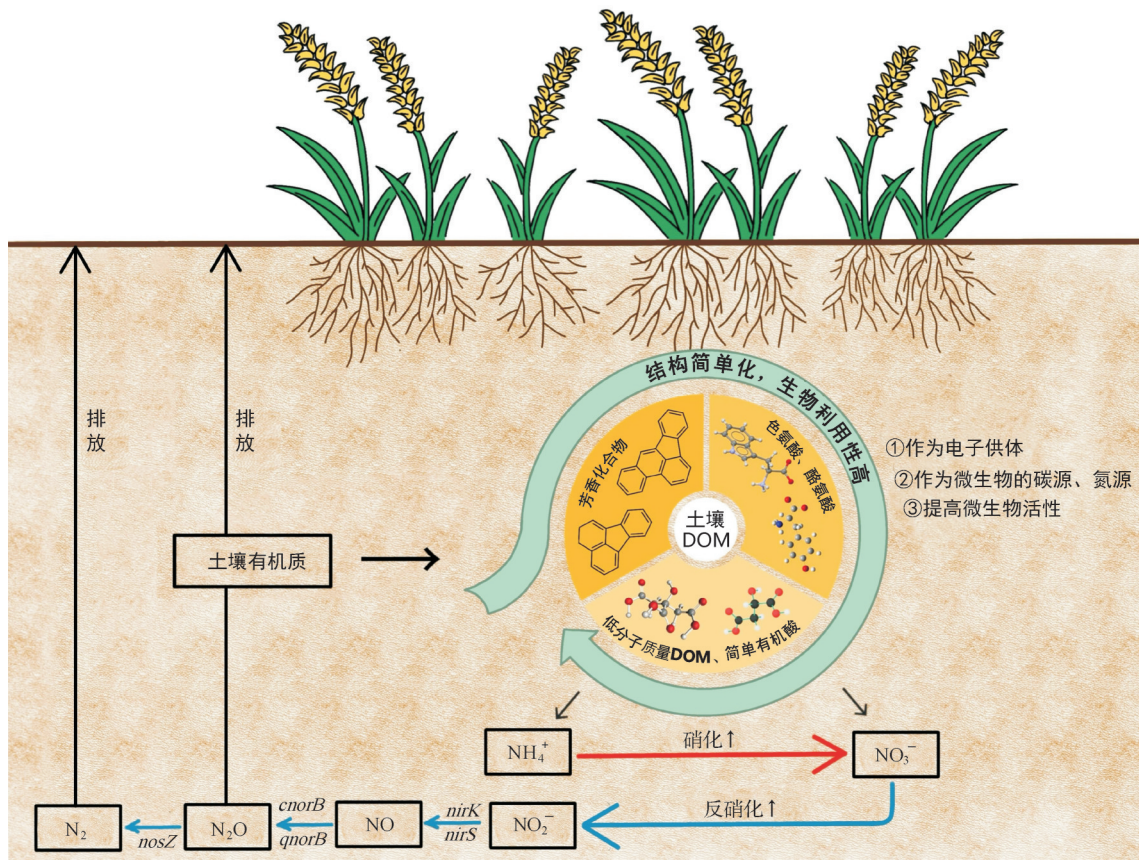
用,表现出促进反硝化和 N_2O 生成的能力,而高分子DOM则因其生物可利用性较低,可能抑制反硝化效率^[51-52]。DOM的浓度也会影响反硝化过程的效率,在土壤中较高浓度的DOM可以促进反硝化过程,但过高浓度的DOM可能引发细菌群落的结构变化,进而影响反硝化反应的进行^[53]。翁蕊等^[54]证实添加DOM后,土壤DOM组分中功能性厌氧黏细菌的相对丰度显著增加,异化硝酸盐还原成铵(dissimilatory nitrate reduction to ammonium, DNRA)等相关功能增强。另外,DOM中的芳香族化合物通过调节反硝化细菌的代谢效率,对 N_2O 的生成产生直接影响^[55]。

2)其他途径调控。除了上述碳源和电子供体的双重功能外,DOM中的DON作为一种重要的氮源,其含量和形态对反硝化过程有一定的影响。研究表明,某些形态的DON(如氨基酸类)能够促进反硝化细菌的硝酸盐还原^[56],而其他类型的DON(如肽类)则可能对反硝化产生抑制作用。氨基酸类低分子DON常作为反硝化细菌的碳源和氮源,增强反硝化细菌的代谢活性,促进硝酸还原酶的合成,且分子中的氨基($-\text{NH}_2$)能直接参与反硝化过程,作为微生物的氮源参与氮代谢。某些氨基酸类化合物还可能通过调节细菌的氮代谢途径,促进硝酸盐的还原^[57]。

此外,Huang等^[58]研究表明,DOM可作为光敏剂,在光照条件下激活非光合微生物的反硝化基因表达,从而促进反硝化过程。DOM对硝化、反硝化过程的调控机制如图3所示。

2.3 DOM对 N_2O 排放的影响

N_2O 作为硝化和反硝化过程的副产物,其排放量受土壤中DOM含量、组成、微生物活性以及环境因素等共同调控,DOM可能促进或抑制 N_2O 的排放^[59]。研究发现,DOM中的活性组分能够显著促进 N_2O 的生成,富含色氨酸和酪氨酸类蛋白的DOM成分,通过提高微生物活性和胞外电子转移能力,促进了硝化和反硝化过程中 N_2O 的生成^[60]。色氨酸和酪氨酸具有较高的生物活性和可利用性,能够支持微生物代谢并增强其氧化还原反应的能力,进而促进 N_2O 的产生^[50,55,47]。低分子DOM和简单有机酸等(如醋酸、柠檬酸等)具有较高的生物可利用性,能够为微生物提供快速、直接的能量,增强硝化和反硝化过程中的微生物活性,从而加剧了 N_2O 的生成^[55,56]。然而,DOM中生物可利用性较低的某些芳香化合物(如腐殖酸)含量较高时,可能导致微生物对碳源的利用受到限制,进而抑制反硝化过程中 N_2O 生成^[51]。



nosZ: 一氧化二氮还原酶基因 Nitrous oxide reductase gene; *cnorB*, *qnorB*: 一氧化氮还原酶B基因 Nitric oxide reductase, subunit B gene; *nirK*, *nirS*: 亚硝酸盐还原酶基因 Nnitrite reductase gene.

图3 DOM对硝化、反硝化过程的调控途径

Fig.3 The regulation of the nitrification and denitrification processes by DOM

同时,这些化合物可能与土壤矿物或者其他有机物形成稳定的复合物,从而进一步降低微生物对DOM的利用效率,减少N₂O的生成^[51,60]。

Zuo等^[52]研究发现腐解秸秆还田改变土壤DOM的组分特性,具体表现为显著增加了CHO化合物的含量,这类化合物通常被认为是易分解的有机碳来源,能够为反硝化细菌提供快速可利用的碳源,从而促进反硝化过程中N₂的产生;同时,腐解秸秆减少了DOM中CHON和CHOS杂原子化合物的含量,这可能减少了这些含氮或含硫化合物对反硝化酶系统的潜在抑制作用,从而有利于反硝化细菌群的活性提升;此外,这些DOM组分的变化还可能通过优化土壤微生物群落结构,尤其是显著增加含有*nirS*和*nosZ*基因的反硝化细菌(如假单胞菌)的相对丰度,从而提高N₂O还原为N₂的效率,最终有效降低了N₂O的排放^[51]。

Sun等^[61]发现稻田长期施用化肥提高了易分解DOM占比,降低了DOM氧化吉布斯自由能,加速氮

循环,促进N₂O的排放;而长期施用生物炭或秸秆能富集更稳定、更难分解的化合物(如高O/C比的木质素类物质),提高DOM氧化吉布斯自由能,这种稳定化的DOM对微生物的激发效应较弱,在一定程度上抑制了驱动N₂O产生的微生物过程。

除DOM组成外,其含量也对N₂O的排放有影响。在高DOM条件下,反硝化微生物往往能获得更多的碳源,促进N₂O排放,也可能更倾向于将N₂O进一步还原为N₂,从而降低N₂O的排放^[51,60]。Ding等^[51]发现DOM含量和*nirK*和*nirS*基因丰度呈正相关,这可能与利用DOM作为异养反硝化过程的碳源有关,从而增强反硝化微生物的活性,进而增加N₂O的排放。除DOM自身外,土壤的pH、含水量及氧气浓度等因素显著影响DOM对N₂O排放的调控作用。在高含水量条件下,DOM通过促进厌氧微域的形成增强N₂O排放;而在干旱条件下,DOM的微生物可利用性降低,N₂O排放量相应减少^[62]。

3 小结与展望

本研究综述了DOM在土壤氮循环中的作用,揭示了DOM在氮矿化、固持、硝化、反硝化以及 N_2O 排放中的重要调控作用。通过为微生物提供碳源和能量,DOM显著影响土壤氮转化过程,促进有机氮矿化和微生物氮固持,提升了土壤氮的可用性。同时,DOM与土壤矿物的相互作用增强了氮的固持能力,减少氮流失,尤其在土壤类型和管理条件下,DOM的化学性质和分子结构会影响氮的转化速率。DOM还通过调节微生物群落,影响硝化和反硝化过程,进而调控土壤中无机氮的转化与 N_2O 的排放。

DOM对土壤氮循环的多方面影响已获得学界广泛关注,但该领域仍存在若干亟待突破的科研薄弱环节。

首先,DOM的异质性与其环境行为的关联机制尚需深入解析。不同来源的DOM因其化学结构特征和分子质量分布存在显著差异,在环境行为方面表现出分异性;更为关键的是,即使相同DOM组分也可能在不同土壤环境中触发差异化的氮生物地球化学过程,进而导致其对 N_2O 排放的贡献呈现时空变异。揭示这种变异规律及其驱动机制,将成为阐明区域氮循环动态和 N_2O 排放时空格局的关键切入点。

其次,全球气候变化对DOM及其环境作用的影响亟需量化评估。当前研究尚未明晰大气 CO_2 浓度升高驱动的碳循环变化对DOM化学组成动态的影响;同时,温度升高导致的土壤环境变化及微生物代谢方式转变可能改变DOM调控 N_2O 排放的途径;再者,极端气候事件(如干旱、强降水、酸雨等)对DOM变化动态及其调控 N_2O 排放的影响尚不明确,这将是未来研究的一个重要方向。

最后,基于DOM对 N_2O 排放的调控机制, N_2O 减排的技术体系需要创新突破。如何通过农业管理措施,如优化有机肥的施用减少DOM导致的 N_2O 排放,是有实际应用价值的重要研究方向。通过以上的深入研究,未来可更好地理解DOM在土壤氮循环中的多重功能,为农业可持续管理和发展气候智慧型农业提供科学依据。

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Progress on effects of dissolved organic matter in soil on nitrogen cycling and N₂O emissions

ZHENG Zihan, QIU Yanxun, YE Xinyuan, XU Jiran, XU Yang, YU Hongyan, TENG Yue

School of Environment and Ecology, Jiangnan University, Wuxi 214122, China

Abstract The continuous increase of globally using nitrogen fertilizer has led to a growing concern over N₂O emissions. How to effectively reduce N₂O emissions and improve nitrogen use efficiency has become the key points of current studies. Dissolved organic matter (DOM) in soil plays a crucial role in the nitrogen cycling in soil, directly or indirectly affecting process of the mineralization, immobilization, nitrification, denitrification of nitrogen and the N₂O emissions. This article reviewed the regulatory role and mechanism of DOM in the nitrogen cycling and N₂O emissions in soil mainly from the following aspects including DOM promoting the metabolic activity of microorganisms in soil by providing carbon sources and energy, thereby accelerating the mineralization of organic nitrogen and alleviating the limitations of nitrogen supply, the composition and morphology of DOM significantly regulating the fixation, nitrification, denitrification of nitrogen and affecting the transformation rate of nitrogen in soil, and DOM serving as an electron donor during the nitrification and denitrification of nitrogen and affecting the transformation of nitrogen by altering the structure of microbial community in soil. Analyzing the effects of DOM on nitrogen cycling in soil both helps to understand the dynamic changes of nitrogen in soil and provides a theoretical basis for mitigating the emissions of greenhouse gas and optimizing the management of agriculture.

Keywords soil; dissolved organic matter (DOM); nitrogen cycling; N₂O emissions; microorganisms in soil

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